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San Diego City Council
District 1

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Rules Committee Fulfills “Measure J” – Advocating for Transparency with City Contracts

San Diego—Transparency in who local government does business with is essential to earning the trust of our residents. Today, the Rules Committee approved an ordinance under Charter Section 225 that will now require City contract recipients to disclose all identities receiving more than 10 percent of the contract amount, or own more than 10 percent of the contracted company. I am elated that after 18 years, we will finally honor the voters’ wishes for more transparency in City contracts.

This measure was first passed in 1992, but a moratorium was quickly issued preventing it from taking effect. The proposition resurfaced again in 2017 when the San Diego County Grand Jury filed a report entitled “Stop Kicking the Can Down the Road: San Diego’s 1992 Transparency Law Must Be Enforced.” Finally, during the 2018 election, this proposition, renamed “Measure J,” was passed by voters yet again.

I have been a strong advocate for this ordinance, and while I am frustrated by the amount of time that it took to pass, I am thrilled that it is finally taking effect. This addition to Charter Section 225 will enable City leadership and the public to know when they are dealing with bad characters, avoid conflict of interest, ensure equal opportunity contracting, and to do what the voters intended in 1992.

Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry represents San Diego City Council District 1, which includes the communities of Carmel Valley, Del Mar Heights, Del Mar Mesa, La Jolla, Pacific Highlands Ranch, Torrey Hills, Torrey Pines, and University City.

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